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SOURCE            Liao-nan Jih-pao.

FOREIGN MISSIONARIES. SENTENCED BY CCP

The Central Hopeh Branch of the Shansi-Chahar-Hopeh Border Area High Court handed down sentences on 15 July 1948 against four foreign missionaries and one Chinese priest of the Roman Catholic Mission at Es'ien-lsien, Hoeph.

The foreign missionaries, sentenced to Deportation from China, were Shang Chien-ch'in, 59, French, Associate Bishop of Hsien-shien Mission; P'ao Ju-lin, 35, French, Local priest of the Mission; Li Shih-t'ang, 42, Belgian, priest and hospital physician; and Mn Ch'i-hua, 46, French, priest of the Mission. All these men are members of the Society of Jesus (Jesuit). One Chinese, Chia Shun-shan, 38 priest, assistant to the Bishop, was sentenced to one year at hard labor and deprivation of his democratic citizenship for 2 years.

In addition to the above, similar charges were preferred against another group of missionaries and Chinese clergy who had escaped the jurisdiction of the court. They were Tu Ts-jen, 53, French, SJ, district priest of several parishes in the Hsien-hsien Mission area; Kuo Ya-erh, SJ, 44, French vice-director of Hsien-hsien Society of Jesus; Shen Tzu-t'ien, 44, priest of the Ho-chien Hsien area; Tu An-to, 45, French, priest of the Ho-chien Hsien area; Wu Hsueh-ch'ing, 42, Chinese, native of Ho-chien Hsien, priest-bishop.

Charges preferred against the missionaries were; (1) operating wireless transmitters to send intelligence information to KMT and US military authorities regarding military and political dispositions and movements in liberated territory; (2) associating with KMT and US military authorities in Pei-p'ing and T'ien-ch'ing (Tientsin) and being in their employ as intelligence agents; (3) inciting KMT military forces to attack liberated areas; (4) receiving cash remuneration and citations from the US and KMT military authorities for their intelligence information; and (5) preparation and transmission by messenger of voluminous reports on all phases of conditions in the liberated areas.

The Chinese, in addition to being associated in the above charges, were also accused of being spies and of interfering with CCF recruiting

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by urging and assisting new recruits and youths subject to the draft to flee.

The court introduced as evidence, confessions, captured written intelligence reports, and radio transmitting and receiving equipment.

The foreign missionaries apparently have given their adopted Chinese names.

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